

To Our Legislators: RE: Case of [REDACTED] Zappulla

[REDACTED] Issues

For the past 3 years we have been living a horrible nightmare when our adopted daughter, [REDACTED] was brought home in January 2006 from a sleepover with alcohol poisoning and a Tylenol overdose. We soon found ourselves with a deeply psychologically and emotionally disturbed, irrational and out-of-control teenager who suffered from depression, anxiety, anger, and Oppositional Defiant Disorder. We endured a living hell as [REDACTED] changed from a sweet good girl to an evil, mean and angry young lady who :

- Had School Suspensions for Fighting
- Skipped School
- Forged Signatures
- Altered grades on progress and report cards
- Left school without permission
- Was in trouble at school for lying to teachers
- Had excessive Tardies
- Refused to serve detentions
- Constantly lied about her whereabouts
- Refused to do chores or engage in family activities
- Would sneak boys in our home
- Was arrested for shoplifting
- Was arrested for threatening, 3rd degree assault, and disorderly conduct
- Slammed doors in the middle of the night and threw things and damaged walls when she was angry
- Defecated in a pot and left it on our banister, defecated on top of the toilet seat, and urinated in a large plastic bag in the basement
- Verbally abused her brother by calling him names
- Abused us by constantly insulting us and was antagonistic and argumentative for no reason
- She intentionally killed all of her brother's fish in his 29-gallon aquarium on his birthday
- Threatened to kill family members by stabbing them in the throat while we slept
- Drank alcohol, used marijuana and ecstasy, and engaged in sexual activities
- Told mother that her vocal cords should be severed
- Has stolen money, jewelry, and sentimental items from family members and from grandmother's home
- Was removed from first foster home due to alcohol incidences and posing naked for pictures

Disgraceful Acts Committed by DCF

- DCF failed to acknowledge [REDACTED] issues
- DCF failed to bring her to (3) scheduled medical appointments
- DCF failed to bring her to eye doctor exam

- DCF failed to initiate appropriate Family therapy sessions (family reunification efforts were abandoned after only 3 sessions)
- Individual therapy sessions were minimal and not consistent
- DCF enforced a policy of parental alienation
- DCF never began a family reunification plan
- No family visitations were ever arranged
- Only 3 or 4 updates were provided to parents since August 2007
- DCF lied to us, distorted the truth, presented inaccurate facts, and gave us false hopes of reunification
- Intentionally presented false testimony to judge in court
- DCF along with foster parents filed two false reports against us when we were not even aware of her removal
- DCF removed [REDACTED] from one foster home and placed her in another foster home without ever informing us
- DCF never specified the makeup of that second foster home
- DCF never expressed any concern for [REDACTED] 16 year-old brother
- DCF has failed to appropriately care for [REDACTED] and has failed to provide appropriate supervision as the recent facts and extremely disturbing photos which I provided to them on November 22, 2008 which depict foster teens drinking alcohol and smoking marijuana do not seem to be a critical issue to DCF as they stated that their investigation could take up to 45 days. It's keenly obvious that this phony investigation is nothing but a futile attempt at a cover-up.

DCF has miserably failed in its mission, and it's painfully clear that you as legislators need to make many difficult but necessary decisions regarding its' future, its' leadership, its' goals and mission, as it cannot be allowed to continue on its current destructive path. They operate in a truly disgraceful manner and destroy people's lives rather than do the right thing and work with the family to reestablish the family unit and provide support, help, and services for children and families in need.

Respectfully,
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